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## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT    Structure and Staffing of the Ministry  
             of Foreign Affairs  
             25X1A

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1. Organization - The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the DDR is organized as follows:

Office of the Minister  
Office of the State Secretary - Code Section  
Protocol Section (Abteilung)  
Press Section  
Training Section  
Courier Section

Branch (Hauptabteilung) I - Political Affairs  
Branch II - Economic Policy  
Branch III - Legal  
Branch IV - Personnel  
Branch V - Cultural Affairs  
Branch VI - Consular Matters  
Branch VII - General Administration

- ## 2. Size of Staff and Training

The Ministry employs about 80 people at present, and an eventual staff of 300, including those at consular posts, is planned. The setting up of the Ministry has proceeded slowly because of the lack of acceptable personnel. Special courses are held at the German Administrative Academy (DVA) at Forst-Zinna to train prospective staff members and candidates for consular posts. The first such course lasted from 12 September 1949 to 30 January 1950, and a second course of five months' duration was scheduled to begin in March 1950. Seventeen SED members made up the first class (all but one, a one-time SPD man, were former KP members) and 11 later found jobs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. For the second course, the class of 50 will be made up of members of all parties, but the Central Secretariat of the SED will pass on the admission of each student.

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3. Office of the Minister - Minister Georg Dertinger rarely appears in his offices and, although he took office in October 1949, he first addressed his assembled staff in February 1950, on the occasion of the election of the leaders of the trade union group of the Ministry. He spoke for twenty minutes, extolling the virtues of the National Front and boasting of his own role in purging the CDU.
  4. Until his arrest, Bernhard Mutius, veteran of the German Foreign Office, was personal Referent to Dertinger and also chief of the Legal Branch. Because of his experience in Foreign Affairs and Protocol, Mutius had his hand in most matters involving relations with foreign countries, working of diplomatic correspondence, and so on, and Dertinger appeared to rely heavily on his advice. Mutius' successor as personal Referent and chief of the Legal Branch is Dr. jur. Reintanz, about whom little is yet known.
  5. Dertinger's personal secretary is Frau Zinsser, CDU member and wife of the same Zinsser who heads the General Administration Branch. Frau Zinsser comes from Dresden. A Frl. Zimmermann was also a secretary in Dertinger's office, but she was arrested with Mutius.
  6. Office of the State Secretary - State Secretary Anton Ackermann, who conducts most of the detailed business of the Ministry, strives to keep on good and intimate terms with Minister Dertinger. Ackermann is intelligent, but a poor administrator and permits himself to get bogged down in so much petty detail that he is not able to control the Ministry as well as he should. His political duties also take up much of his time.
  7. Personal Referent to Ackermann is Günther Kohrt. Born in 1912, Kohrt grew up in the Socialist Youth movement and worked in illegal Communist cells from 1933 to 1945. He joined the KP in 1945 and later became assistant to Wildangel, an official of the Central Education Office. Kohrt attended the DVA course at Forst-Zinna beginning in September 1949 and then joined Ackermann. Kohrt is intelligent and a strict follower of the party line.
  8. Ackermann's secretary is Frau Gatz, an SED member.
  9. A Code Section is being set up under Ackermann. So far it has three on its staff, of whom two are Sudeten German communists, named Neubauer and Nosty. Both attended a course at Forst-Zinna and are considered fanatical SED members. For security reasons, this Section is usually not mentioned on the organizational plan.
- \* Georg Dertinger, born in Berlin, 24 December 1902. After service in World War I, Dertinger became a journalist and was Berlin correspondent for many papers affiliated with the Deutschnationale Partei. Under the Nazis he edited the nationalistic Dienstag Ltd. news and feature agency. He is well known for a series of violently Nazi and anti-bolshevistic lead articles he wrote before and during World War II for the Neues Wiener Tageblatt. One of the founders of the CDU in the Soviet Zone after World War II, Dertinger became its Secretary General in 1946. After he helped remove Jakob Kaiser from the party, he became a CDU representative in the Volkskongress and an official of the DDK. In 1948 he went to Moscow with a Volkerrat delegation. Dertinger has been a leader in purging the Soviet Zone CDU of elements who could not be relied upon to carry out Soviet policy.

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10. Protocol Section - Under Ferdinand Thun (formerly Graf Ferdinand von Thun, of a Bohemian noble line); handles relations with foreign missions. Thun is a former German officer who spent five years as a Russian prisoner, returned in 1948, joined the NDF and became a member of its Executive Committee. He studied sociology for a while at the University of Leipzig; his parents live in Western Germany. Thun was a close associate of the arrested Kutius and is hence regarded with some suspicion at present. He is rather reticent on political matters, but has criticized secretly the application of Russian ideas and methods to German conditions. Thun's secretary is Frau Harnisch, politically unaffiliated, but likely to join the SED.
11. Others in the Protocol Section are: Werner Menning, 36 years old, trained in the Land party school at Postensee, the University of Leipzig, where he studied sociology, and the German Administrative Academy. Menning is reported to be anxious to stick to the party line. His background under the Nazis, when he was working for the Alkett armament firm, still unclear. Walter Rehse, born in 1925 in Halberstadt, is the son of an active Communist. After work at the Party High School in Klein-Machnow, he studied at Leipzig and at Forst-Zinna. Elisabeth Radtke, about 24, formerly interpreter for the Russian commander of Schönefeld airfield. Radtke is the daughter of a Russian mother and German father and is allegedly an informant of the MVD.
12. Press Section - The Press Chief of the Ministry is Max Keilson, former editor of "Vorwärts" and known to be a loyal communist. His wife is a member of the Central Secretariat of the SED. Keilson's secretary is SED member Frä. Zimmermann.
13. Training Section - Chief of the Training Section is Frau Berner, \*\* who was formerly directress of the SMA school at Königswusterhausen. She is about 45-50 years old, speaks Russian, and is a known Communist. Under her Section are organized the courses for the Ministry at Forst-Zinna and also the training of the future consular corps.
14. Frau Berner's deputy is Rudolf Helmer, 36 years old, a long-time Communist who acted as a courier during the Nazi period, was arrested, and imprisoned in Sachsenhausen concentration camp. After the war he was a government official in charge of social matters in Bezirk Kreuzberg, studied sociology at Leipzig, and then took the course at the German Administrative Academy. Though a loyal SED member, he is not satisfied with his present job.
15. Courier Section - Frau Reiche, about 45 years old, and a fanatical communist, is the chief of this section.
16. Branch I - Political Affairs - The Political Affairs Branch is under Gerhard Kegel, a veteran of the Foreign Office, who was in exile in Russia and returned after the war to work on the "Berliner Zeitung". He is a member of the SED. His deputy is one Marten, who is active in the affairs of the SED union in the Ministry. \*\*\*

\* Another report indicates that Rehse is an agent of the MVD.

\*\* Also reported as Helene Bergner.

\*\*\* Kegel resigned 1 April 1950

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17. The full development of Branch I is not yet complete. Only a few area desks have been organized. An official now with the CSR desk, Edgar Linick, will probably head the USA-Anglo Saxon desk. Linick fled to France in 1933, joined the Communist Party, fought in the Spanish Civil War, and eventually went to North Africa. There he is said to have joined the British army as a Soviet agent and later went to Russia. In Moscow he worked on the staff of a newspaper for German prisoners and in 1948 he returned to Germany. He first found a place in the administration of interzonal and foreign trade, working on personnel matters. He attended the DVA and then joined the Ministry. In the SED group in the Ministry, he is in charge of personnel, a key position for the whole Ministry.
18. Another figure in Branch I is Erich Simons, 38 years old. Simons, originally a member of the Christian youth movement, joined the Communist Youth, was arrested by the Nazis and imprisoned for a time, saw military service and finally deserted to the Russians in 1943. After attending Antifa schools he came back to Germany in 1946 and worked in SED party schools. In 1947 he began the study of sociology in Leipzig and then attended the DVA. Although often suspected of "Trotskyist and Titoist" sentiments, Simons quietens his critics by energetic work in the SED.
19. Branch II - Economic Policy - Grete Kuckhoff, in charge of this branch, is a very headstrong and conceited personality, whose quirks have led her into conflict with Ackermann. She is an SED member but is not very active politically.
20. Kuckhoff's deputy is Dr. Kurt Raphael, an economist and former SPD man. He is in charge of Sub-Branch Foreign Trade and Finance. Raphael was chief of the Control Branch for Planning of the DWG and later in the HO organization. He was later sent to Prague as a DDR diplomatic representative, but was recalled for some reason. Known as a plotter and as treacherous, Raphael does all he can to follow the party line.
21. Twenty-six-year-old Günther Seifert is the personal Referent of Frau Kuckhoff. Son of an Erzgebirge Communist, he deserted to the Russians in World War II and returned to Germany later in a propaganda unit. He was employed in the Material Supply department of Land Sachsen, attended the DVA and then came to the Ministry. He is said to be a fanatical SED man.
22. Todtmann, who first became politically active when he joined the SED in 1946, is another official of Branch II. He formerly worked in the office of Kerber, chief of Material Supply for the D/K, attended the DVA later, and then came to the Ministry. He is second Chairman of the Ministry's SED group, but is not regarded as a 100-percent party man. His ability and knowledge make him a valuable worker.
23. Branch II is by no means completely set up. Lack of personnel has until now prevented the creation of sub-branches for Technical Matters and Patents, and for Transport and Communications.
24. Branch III - Legal - Dr. Meintanz, personal Referent of the Minister, directs the work of this Branch.

\* This is the same Grete Kuckhoff who was active as a Soviet agent in the Russian Rote Kapelle spy net in Germany during World War II.

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25. Branch IV - Personnel - Emil (or Ernst) Rathmann, an old-time KP functionary and former official of the Personnel Branch of the SED Central Secretariat, is chief of the Branch. Although not particularly intelligent, he faithfully carries out the orders of the party.
26. Rathmann is assisted by Käte Blenkle, divorced wife of the late KP functionary Konrad Blenkle, who was executed by the Nazis. From 1946 to 1949 she worked in the Central Administration of the Fuels Industry and in the Coal Administration, and in 1949 she attended the DVA. Liersch, another old KP member, is also in the Personnel Branch. He takes care of union matters in the Ministry.
27. Branch V - Cultural Affairs - Chief is Kurt Schatter, LDP member and a very retiring man. His deputy is Werner Boehnke, 39-year-old veteran of many Communist organizations and a prisoner under the Nazis. From 1945 to 1947 he was in the Central Administration for Labor and Social Welfare, later studied at the University of Leipzig, and attended the special course at the DVA. Boehnke is known as a loyal SED man; his wife works in the SED Central Secretariat.
28. Frau Käte Zilles is another official of Branch V. She formerly worked as personal Referentin of the present State Secretary of the Ministry of Planning. She is an SED member.
29. Branch VI - Consular Matters - Walter Freund, Branch chief, about 40 years old, was formerly personal Referent of the present Culture Minister Wandel. A veteran of the KP, Freund is a reliable SED man. Lack of office space has retarded the growth of the Consular Affairs branch.
30. Branch VII - General Administration - Leader of this Branch is Zinsser, about 45 years old, either non-political or affiliated with the CDU. Zinsser rarely attracts any attention. His Branch includes a Finance Section.

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## TELEPHONE DIRECTORY OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE DDR

Name and Office	Direct Line	Extension of 42 00 18
Minister Dertinger	426879	1721
Minister's Office, Frau Zinsser	424102	1731
Minister's Office, Dr. Reintanz	426104	1716
Dr. Reintanz' Receptionist, Frau Schlesinger	421609	
State Secretary Ackermann	427437	1701
Ackermann's Receptionist, Frau Gatz	422032	
State Secretary's Office, Herr Kohrt	422642	
Branch I, Herr Kegel	427759	1730
Herr Marten	421753	
Kegel's Receptionist, Frau Schwäbe		1724
Branch II, Frau Kuckhoff		1726
Kuckhoff's Receptionist, Frau Kraska	420933	1720
Branch III, Herr Schatter	421607	
Frau Zilles	421580	
Branch IV - Herr Rathmann	424638	
Rathmann's Receptionist, Frl. Schober	422133	
Frl. Rhodin, Personnel Branch		1705
Herr Liersch, Personnel Branch		1739
Branch VII, Herr Zinsser	421874	1728
Zinsser's Receptionist, Frl. Kubla	427080	
Herr Peyerherd		1700
Herr Pankalla	421908	
Finance Section, Herr Hulin		1709
Chief of Protocol, Herr Thun	423616	
Thun's Receptionist, Frau Harnisch		1713
Herr Amft		1736
Herr Menning		1736
Press Section, Herr Keilson	421892	1723
Keilson's Receptionist, Frl. Zimmermann	424071	
Training Section, Frau Berner	423350	
Berner's Receptionist, Frl. Nitschke		1703
Consular Branch, Herr Freund	423492	1735
Freund's Receptionist, Frau Wuensche		1710
Frau Seigewasser	423792	
Herr Ransch	422878	
Herr Flehnert	423792	
Motor Pool, Herr Noack	421268	
Doorman	424512	
Major Domo Kücken	421333	
Guard Room	421480	

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